

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/665,225

Examiner

Thoi V. Duong

Applicant(s)

TAKEDA ET AL.

Art Unit

2871

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the response filed August 24, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) ~~is~~ are 13-16.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 10/047,216.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to the response filed August 24, 2006.

Accordingly, a certified translation of the priority Japanese Application 2001-029814 filed on February 6, 2001 was submitted in order to perfect priority over US 6,836,308 B2 to Sawasaki et al..

2. Claims 1-12 and 17-33 were cancelled. Currently, claims 13-16 are pending in this application.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 13-16 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: none of the prior art of record fairly suggests or shows all of the limitations as claimed.

Specifically, re claim 13, none of the prior art of record discloses, in combination with other limitations as claimed, a liquid crystal display device comprising a first orientation control element extending in a nonparallel direction relative to an extending direction of an edge of said pixel electrode, and a second orientation control element extending from said first orientation element in a parallel direction relative to an extending direction of said edge provided on at least one of said first and second substrates,

wherein said second orientation control element has a constant width, and said width is smaller than a width of said first orientation control element.

The most relevant reference, US 6,567,144 B1 to Kim et al. (Kim), fails to disclose or suggest said second orientation control element has a constant width, and

Art Unit: 2871

said width is smaller than a width of said first orientation control element. As shown in Figs. 6A, 6B and 7, Kim discloses a first orientation control element 17 extending in a nonparallel direction relative to an extending direction of an edge 19 of the pixel electrode 20, and a second orientation control element 171 extending from said first orientation element in a parallel direction relative to an extending direction of said edge 19 provided on the second substrate 100. However, said second orientation control element does not have a constant width which is smaller than a width of said first orientation control element.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

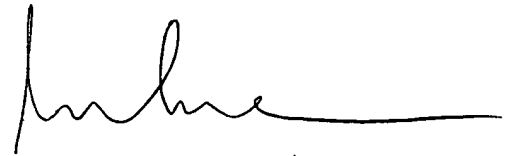
Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thoi V. Duong whose telephone number is (571) 272-2292. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Nelms, can be reached at (571) 272-1787.

Thoi Duong



10/20/2006



DUNG T. NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER